

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - February 2007

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
WISCONSIN, Southeast				

SAUK (WI-Z056)

02/01/07 03:00 CST	1	0	Cold/Wind Chill
02/01/07 06:00 CST		0	

During the pre-dawn hours of February 1, 2007, cold air started to pour into south-central and southeast Wisconsin on southwest to west winds of 8 to 13 knots (9 to 15 mph). Air temperatures were in the 18-19F range along with snow flurries. During this time period, a 37-year-old man in light clothing, died outdoors due to exposure as he tried to return to his motel room in Sauk City.

MARQUETTE (WI-Z046), GREEN LAKE (WI-Z047), FOND DU LAC (WI-Z051), COLUMBIA (WI-Z057), DODGE (WI-Z058), WASHINGTON (WI-Z059), OZAUKEE (WI-Z060), DANE (WI-Z063), JEFFERSON (WI-Z064), MILWAUKEE (WI-Z066), LAFAYETTE (WI-Z067), GREEN (WI-Z068), ROCK (WI-Z069), WALWORTH (WI-Z070)

02/03/07 09:00 CST		0.14M	Cold/Wind Chill
02/06/07 10:00 CST		0	

The coldest air and lowest wind chills of the 2006-07 winter season affected south-central and southeast Wisconsin as a massive arctic high pressure pushed southeast through the Western Great Lakes Region over the 4-day period of February 3-6, 2007. Minimum air temperatures tumbled to -5F to -14F on February 3rd with the Lone Rock Airport (Sauk Co.) registering the -14F. Milwaukee Mithcell Field (Milwaukee Co.) had -9F and Madison's Truax Field fell to -11F on the 3rd. Daytime maximum air temperatures on the 3rd ranged from 3F to 10F above zero. Early morning low temperatures on the 4th ranged from -10F to -15F. Afternoon maximum temperatures on the 4th never reached the zero mark, ranging from -1F at Milwaukee to -3F at Madison. The lowest minimum temperatures of the 4-day period occurred on February 5th, ranging from -11F in Milwaukee to -26F at the Lone Rock Airport which sits in the flat Wisconsin River Valley where cold air drains into and collects. Maximum afternoon temperatures on the 5th ranged from -4F at Port Washington (Ozaukee Co.) to +6F at Richfield (Washington Co.). Early morning minimum temperatures on the 6th ranged from -7F in Milwaukee to -17F in Arygle (Lafayette Co.). Readings from the Lone Rock Airport were missing on February 6th. Afternoon maximum temperatures on the 6th were in the single digits. On February 3rd and 4th, west to northwest winds were generally 15 to 30 mph, which generated wind chill values of -20F to -30F. Lower wind speeds of 5 to 20 mph were noted on February 5th and 6th.

In general, the lowest wind chill values were observed during the early morning hours on February 5th, in the -30F to -34F range, corresponding to the lowest air temperatures of the winter season. However, Extreme Cold/Wind Chill conditions were experienced in six counties during the early morning hours of February 5th (Sheboygan, Sauk, Iowa, Waukesha, Racine, and Kenosha). In these counties the lowest wind chill temperatures were in the -35F to -38F range. Refer to the other Cold/Wind Chill and Extreme Cold/Wind Chill events for south-central and southeast Wisconsin during the period of February 1-6, 2007, for related stories.

The cold temperatures resulted in a broken water main and electrical outage in the 100 block of West Main St. near the Madison Capitol Square (Dane Co.) early Saturday morning, February 3rd. Many public and private schools were closed on Monday and Tuesday, February 5th and 6th. It was the first time in 13 years that the Madison schools close due to cold temperatures. Additionally, newspaper reports indicated that plumbers answered numerous frozen-pipe calls.

SHEBOYGAN (WI-Z052), SAUK (WI-Z056), IOWA (WI-Z062), WAUKESHA (WI-Z065), RACINE (WI-Z071), KENOSHA (WI-Z072)

02/03/07 09:00 CST		0	Cold/Wind Chill
02/05/07 03:00 CST		0	

The coldest air and lowest wind chills of the 2006-07 winter season affected these 6 counties in south-central and southeast Wisconsin as a massive arctic high pressure pushed southeast through the Western Great Lakes Region over the 4-day period of February 3-6, 2007. Minimum air temperatures tumbled to -5F to -14F on February 3rd with the Lone Rock Airport (Sauk Co.) registering the -14F. Milwaukee Mithcell Field (Milwaukee Co.) had -9F and Madison's Truax Field fell to -11F on the 3rd. Daytime maximum air temperatures on the 3rd ranged from 3F to 10F above zero. Early morning low temperatures on the 4th ranged from -10F to -15F. Afternoon maximum temperatures on the 4th never reached the zero mark, ranging from -1F at Milwaukee to -3F at Madison. The lowest minimum temperatures of the 4-day period occurred on February 5th, ranging from -11F in Milwaukee to -26F at the Lone Rock Airport which sits in the flat Wisconsin River Valley where cold air drains into and collects. Maximum afternoon temperatures on the 5th ranged from -4F at Port Washington (Ozaukee Co.) to +6F at Richfield (Washington Co.). Early morning minimum temperatures on the 6th ranged from -7F in Milwaukee to -17F in Arygle (Lafayette Co.). Readings from the Lone Rock Airport were missing on February 6th. Afternoon maximum temperatures on the 6th were in the single digits. On February 3rd and 4th, west to northwest winds were generally 15 to 30 mph, which generated wind chill values of -20F to -30F. Lower wind speeds of 5 to 20 mph were noted on February 5th.

The counties of Sheboygan, Sauk, Iowa, Waukesha, Racine, and Kenosha experienced Extreme Cold/Wind Chill event conditions (wind chills of -35F to -38F) for several hours during the early morning hours of February 5th. Please refer to that event for additional details.

Newspaper accounts indicated that plumbers answered numerous frozen-pipe calls. Estimated damage amounts are included in the Extreme Cold/Wind Chill event on February 5th for counties listed in the paragraph above.

SHEBOYGAN (WI-Z052), SAUK (WI-Z056), IOWA (WI-Z062), WAUKESHA (WI-Z065), RACINE (WI-Z071), KENOSHA (WI-Z072)

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	02/05/07 03:00 CST		22K	Extreme Cold/Wind Chill
	02/05/07 10:00 CST		0	

For several hours during the morning hours of February 5th, wind chill readings dropped into to -35F to -38F range at the Lone Rock Airport (Sauk Co.), into the -35F to -37F range at the airport northwest of the city of Sheboygan (Sheboygan Co.), into the -35F to -36F range at the Racine Airport (Racine Co.), into the -35F to -37F range at the Kenosha Airport (Kenosha Co.), and to -35F at the Waukesha Airport (Waukesha Co.). West to northwest winds were on the order of 5 to 15 mph at this time thanks to a massive arctic high pressure system moving east through the area. Minimum air temperatures at this time were in the -14F to -15F range at the Sheboygan, Racine, and Kenosha airports, while it bottomed out at -26F at the Lone Rock Airport. Conditions observed at the Lone Rock Airport were probably experienced across extreme north-central Iowa County on the other side of the Wisconsin River. Minimum temperatures on February 5th were the coldest of the 2006-07 winter season in south-central and southeast Wisconsin. Refer to the other Cold/Wind Chill events across south-central and southeast Wisconsin during the period of February 1st through the 6th for detailed and related information.

SHEBOYGAN (WI-Z052), SAUK (WI-Z056), IOWA (WI-Z062), WAUKESHA (WI-Z065), RACINE (WI-Z071), KENOSHA (WI-Z072)				
	02/05/07 10:00 CST		0	Cold/Wind Chill
	02/06/07 10:00 CST		0	

This Cold/Wind Chill event is the leftover event that followed on the heels of a February 5th Extreme Cold/Wind Chill event that occurred in the six counties listed in the header strip above. Daytime maximum temperatures on February 5th were only in the single digits above zero. Overnight minimum temperatures ending the morning of February 6th across south-central and southeast Wisconsin ranged from -7F at Milwaukee Mitchell Field to -17F at Arygle (Lafayette Co.). The minimum temperature on February 6th in Kenosha (Kenosha Co.) was -12F and in Racine (Racine Co.) it was -9F. West to northwest winds were on the order of 5 to 20 mph during this leftover event, resulting in wind chill values of -20F to -33F.

Refer to other Cold/Wind Chill and Extreme Cold/Wind Chill events that occurred in south-central and southeast Wisconsin during the period of February 1-6, 2007, for related stories.

DANE (WI-Z063)				
	02/06/07 05:00 CST		0	Winter Weather
	02/06/07 18:00 CST		0	

A light snowfall of just 1 to 2 inches combined with frigid temperatures to create slippery and icy conditions on many roads across Dane County during the morning hours of February 6th. Numerous vehicle accidents were reported, including several multiple-vehicle accidents. At least 30 vehicles were involved in an accident on Interstate 39-90 east of Madison (Dane Co.) that closed traffic for 3 hours and backed up traffic for two miles. The Madison police department responded to about 50 crashes, and the State Patrol handled about 94 accidents. Interstate 39-90-94 in the Madison area was described as "just a parking lot of cars."

SHEBOYGAN (WI-Z052), OZAUKEE (WI-Z060), MILWAUKEE (WI-Z066), RACINE (WI-Z071), KENOSHA (WI-Z072)				
	02/13/07 06:00 CST		0	Winter Weather
	02/14/07 06:00 CST		0	

Lake-effect snow showers moved inland during the daylight hours on February 13th into the pre-dawn hours of February 14th, depositing generally 2 to 4 inches. However, east of Interstate-94, accumulations were 4 to 6 inches, with an isolated maximum of 7.8 inches at Milwaukee's Mitchell Field (Milwaukee Co.). The city of Racine (Racine Co.) registered 6 inches, and the city of Kenosha (Kenosha Co.) picked up 5 inches. Additionally, northeast winds gusting to 26 knots (30 mph) resulted in considerable blowing and drifting of the snow which led to numerous vehicle accidents. Driving conditions near Lake Michigan were reported as treacherous.

MARQUETTE (WI-Z046), GREEN LAKE (WI-Z047), FOND DU LAC (WI-Z051), SHEBOYGAN (WI-Z052), SAUK (WI-Z056), COLUMBIA (WI-Z057), DODGE (WI-Z058), WASHINGTON (WI-Z059), OZAUKEE (WI-Z060), DANE (WI-Z063), JEFFERSON (WI-Z064), WAUKESHA (WI-Z065), MILWAUKEE (WI-Z066), ROCK (WI-Z069), WALWORTH (WI-Z070), RACINE (WI-Z071), KENOSHA (WI-Z072)				
	02/22/07 02:00 CST		34K	Strong Wind (MAX 45 kt)
	02/22/07 07:00 CST		0	

Strong northwest winds gusting to 39 to 45 knots (45 to 52 mph) affected much of south-central and southeast Wisconsin during the pre-dawn hours of February 22nd. Many, small tree limbs were knocked down, with some of them hitting power lines. This resulted in scattered power outages. The highest two wind gusts were 45 knots (52 mph) at both Milwaukee Mitchell Field (Milwaukee Co.) and at a Milwaukee TV-6 school network site in Grafton (Ozaukee Co.). Otherwise all other maximum wind gusts were in the 39 to 42 knot range (45 to 48 mph).

MARQUETTE (WI-Z046), GREEN LAKE (WI-Z047), FOND DU LAC (WI-Z051), SHEBOYGAN (WI-Z052), SAUK (WI-Z056), COLUMBIA (WI-Z057), DODGE (WI-Z058), WASHINGTON (WI-Z059), OZAUKEE (WI-Z060), DANE (WI-Z063), JEFFERSON (WI-Z064), WAUKESHA (WI-Z065), MILWAUKEE (WI-Z066)				
	02/23/07 18:00 CST		20K	Winter Storm
	02/24/07 06:00 CST		0	

A winter storm (first of two rounds) consisting of heavy snow with some sleet and freezing rain mixed in, left behind 6 to 8.5 inches of

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accumulations over several south-central and southeast Wisconsin counties. Additionally, there were frequent wind gusts to around 25 mph which resulted in a fair amount of blowing and drifting of the new snow. The greatest snow accumulations occurred north of a line from Madison (Dane Co.) to Brown Deer (Milwaukee Co.). Maximum amounts in each affected county include 8 inches in Brown Deer, just over 6 inches in extreme northwest Waukesha County, 7.5 inches near Lake Mills (Jefferson Co.), 8.3 inches south of Middleton (Dane Co.), 8.5 inches in Saukville (Ozaukee Co.), 7.7 inches northwest of Beaver Dam (Dodge Co.), 8 inches in the Wisconsin Dells area (Columbia Co.), 8 inches in the Lake Delton area (Sauk Co.), 7.4 inches near Oxford (Marquette Co.), 8.5 inches between Berlin and Green Lake (Green Lake Co.), 8 inches just west of Ripon (Fond du Lac Co.), and about 6.5 inches in extreme southwest Sheboygan County. A 34-year-old man died (indirectly-related) in a vehicle accident on a slippery road in the Town of Springfield (Dane Co.) Friday night. The roof of an abandoned building in McFarland (Dane Co.) collapsed Friday night due to the weight of the heavy, wet snow. Synoptically, this winter storm was the result of a strong upper-level short wave trough moving northeast through Wisconsin with plenty of warm-air advection and moisture advection in the low to mid levels of the atmosphere. Some rumblings of thunder were reported as well. Lesser amounts of snow, in the 3 to less than 6 inch range, fell near the Illinois border. Further northwest in the La Crosse area, 12 to 14 inches of snow were measured.

ROCK (WI-Z069), WALWORTH (WI-Z070), RACINE (WI-Z071), KENOSHA (WI-Z072)

02/23/07 18:00 CST	0	Winter Weather
02/24/07 06:00 CST	0	

Snowfalls of 3 to almost 6 inches fell overnight across Rock, Walworth, Racine, and Kenosha counties. The snow was heavy and wet, and visibilities were reduced to below 1 mile. Roads became very slippery. Some social activities were cancelled. A vehicle accident on the slippery roads in the Town of Bristol (Kenosha Co.) resulted in the death of three people (indirectly-related): a 36-year old woman, an 18-year-old woman, and an 8-year-old boy. Refer to the other Winter Storm and Blizzard events that occurred in south-central and southeast Wisconsin during the period of February 23-25, 2007, for related stories.

MARQUETTE (WI-Z046), GREEN LAKE (WI-Z047), FOND DU LAC (WI-Z051), SHEBOYGAN (WI-Z052), SAUK (WI-Z056), COLUMBIA (WI-Z057), DODGE (WI-Z058), WASHINGTON (WI-Z059), OZAUKEE (WI-Z060), IOWA (WI-Z062), DANE (WI-Z063), JEFFERSON (WI-Z064), WAUKESHA (WI-Z065), LAFAYETTE (WI-Z067), GREEN (WI-Z068)

02/24/07 18:00 CST	55K	Blizzard
02/25/07 03:51 CST	0	

This blizzard was round #2 of a 1-2 Winter Storm/Blizzard, with about a 12 hour separation between rounds. Heavy snows at the rate of 1 to 3 inches per hour occurred for several hours along with frequent east wind gusts of 30 to 33 knots (35 to 38 mph) reduced visibilities to 1/8 to 1/4 mile. Thunder and lightning were noted. The associated blowing snow generated snow drifts of 3 to 7 feet in height! Several roads in Jefferson and Waukesha counties were closed because snowplow crews were unable to keep up with the blowing and drifting snow. Numerous social activities were cancelled. Many airplane flights were cancelled or delayed at Madison's Truax Field (Dane Co.). There were numerous reports of vehicle accidents, and some of them ended up with injuries (indirectly-related). Even snowplow trucks got stuck in the snow drifts! Numerous social activities were cancelled. The weight of the heavy snow collapsed the roof of a pole shed near Fox Lake (Dodge Co.), resulting in the death of two cows. The weight of the snow and wind gusts led to scattered electrical outages in the counties of Sheboygan, Washington, Waukesha, Milwaukee, and Racine. New snow accumulations include: 10.5 inches in Westfield (Marquette Co.), 8 to 9 inches in Green Lake County, 8 inches in Fond du Lac (Fond du Lac Co.), 7 inches in Howards Grove (Sheboygan Co.), 11.5 inches in Spring Green (Sauk Co.), about 10 inches near Arlington (Columbia Co.), 9.5 inches in Watertown (Dodge Co.), 10 inches in Jackson (Washington Co.), 6 to 7 inches in western Ozaukee County, 10 to 11 inches in far north-central Iowa County, about 10 inches south of Marshall (Dane Co.), 12.5 inches at the NWS office about 3.8 miles southeast of Sullivan (Jefferson Co.), 10 to 11 inches from Merton to Dousman (Waukesha Co.), 6 to 7 inches across Lafayette County, and 6 to 7 inches across the western half of Green County. Within a mile or so of the Lake Michigan shoreline in Sheboygan and Ozaukee Counties the accumulations were only 1 to 3 inches due to the warming effects of Lake Michigan. Synoptically, a strong low pressure moved northeast through central Illinois into lower Michigan, resulting in the tightest surface pressure gradient and winds over southern Wisconsin. This blizzard event changed around 0351 CST on the 25th to a Winter Storm event that continued until the late morning hours of the 25th. Refer to related stories in the other Blizzard and Winter Storm events for February 24th and 25th for south-central and southeast Wisconsin.

Starting during the overnight hours of the 25th, periods of leftover, wrap-around snow affected southern Wisconsin until about 0600CST on February 26th. This leftover snow accumulated another 1 to 4 inches. Consequently, the total new snowfall for the period of February 23-26, 2007 ranged from 8 to 12 inches near the Illinois border to 19 to 21 inches from Wisconsin Dells (Columbia Co.) to the Fond du Lac area (Fond du Lac Co.), with lesser amounts near the Lake Michigan shoreline.

MILWAUKEE (WI-Z066), ROCK (WI-Z069), WALWORTH (WI-Z070)

02/24/07 18:00 CST	75K	Blizzard
02/25/07 01:39 CST	0	

A blizzard event affected the counties of Milwaukee, Rock, and Walworth overnight from the 24th into the 25th. Convective bands of heavy snow, with hourly snowfall rates of 1 to 2 inches moved through the area as east winds gusted to 30 to 38 knots (35 to 44 mph). Visibilities were reduced to 1/8 to 1/4 mile, and the blowing snow generated drifts of 1 to 4 feet in height. Thunder was heard. Snow accumulations include 9 to 10 inches in extreme northeast Rock County, 10 inches in Whitewater (Walworth Co.), 7 inches in Hales

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Corner (Milwaukee Co.), and 5.5 inches at Milwaukee Mitchell Field (Milwaukee Co.). Within a mile or so of the Lake Michigan shoreline in Milwaukee County the accumulations were only 1 to 3 inches due to the warming effects of Lake Michigan. Ultimately, about 11,000 customers lost electrical service due to the heavy wet snow accumulating on power-lines as the gusty winds pushed the lines around (mostly in the counties of Sheboygan, Washington, Waukesha, Milwaukee, and Racine). Many airplane flights were cancelled or delayed at Milwaukee Mitchell Field (Milwaukee Co.). Refer to related stories in the other blizzard and winter storm events in south-central and southeast Wisconsin during the period of February 23-25, 2007.

Starting during the overnight hours of the 25th, periods of leftover, wrap-around snow affected southern Wisconsin until about 0600CST on February 26th. This leftover snow accumulated another 1 to 4 inches. Consequently, the total new snowfall for the period of February 23-26, 2007 ranged from 8 to 12 inches near the Illinois border to 19 to 21 inches from Wisconsin Dells to the Fond du Lac area, with lesser amounts near the Lake Michigan shoreline.

MILWAUKEE (WI-Z066), ROCK (WI-Z069), WALWORTH (WI-Z070)

02/25/07 01:39 CST	0	Winter Storm
02/25/07 10:51 CST	0	

This winter storm event is a continuation of a storm system that initially started off as a blizzard event in these counties. Additional snowfalls of 1 to 2 inches occurred along with some sleet, freezing rain, rain, and thunder mixed in. The east winds weakened to gusts in the 22 to 29 knot range (25 to 33 mph). Travel conditions remained poor. Refer to related stories in other blizzard and winter storm events across south-central and southeast Wisconsin during the period of February 23-25, 2007.

MARQUETTE (WI-Z046), GREEN LAKE (WI-Z047), FOND DU LAC (WI-Z051), SHEBOYGAN (WI-Z052), SAUK (WI-Z056), COLUMBIA (WI-Z057), DODGE (WI-Z058), WASHINGTON (WI-Z059), OZAUKEE (WI-Z060), IOWA (WI-Z062), DANE (WI-Z063), JEFFERSON (WI-Z064), WAUKESHA (WI-Z065), LAFAYETTE (WI-Z067), GREEN (WI-Z068)

02/25/07 03:51 CST	0	Winter Storm
02/25/07 10:51 CST	0	

This winter storm event was a continuation of storm conditions that existed initially as a blizzard in these counties. During this winter storm, an additional 1 to 3 inches of snow fell, with some sleet, freezing rain, and rain mixed in. East winds gusted to 22 to 26 knots (25 to 30 mph). Even some thunder was heard! Refer to related stories in other blizzard or winter storm events across south-central and southeast Wisconsin during the period of February 23-25, 2007.